

**April 28**

**9:00am & 11:00am**

*Three and Four Year Olds*

**JESUS FORGAVE PETER**

(John 21)

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** When Jesus was arrested, His disciples ran away. Jesus showed His friends that He still loved them and wanted them to keep following Him. Even though we sin, Jesus forgives us and wants us to follow Him.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** How do we know God wants us to know Him? We know God wants us to know Him because He shows Himself through the Bible.

**KEY PASSAGE:** This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and the one you have sent —Jesus Christ. John 17:3

**Key Passage Phrase:** People who know the only true God will live forever. John 17:3

## **LEARN**

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

### **1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY**

Use **blue painters tape** to make a boat outline on the floor. Get on the “boat” and invite the children to join you. Ask preschoolers if they have ever seen or been on a boat. Talk about the things you might see, hear, and smell while riding on a boat. Mention that Jesus’ friends were on a boat in today’s Bible story.

### **2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.**

\*9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.\*

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today’s date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

*If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.*

### **3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER**

**SAY** *How do we know God wants us to know Him? We know God wants us to know Him because He shows Himself through the Bible. Today we heard a story about how Jesus forgave Peter. God showed us through this story that when we sin, He loves us and He forgives us.*

### **4. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE**

Place the key passage marker at John 17:3. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Remove the marker and read the verse aloud. Invite children to make a “fish face” by sucking in their cheeks. Guide them to repeat the verse after you while making fish faces.

**SAY** *Our key passage verse promises that eternal life is found in knowing the one true God and His Son, Jesus. Jesus showed Peter forgiveness and that He still wanted Peter to follow Him.*

### **5. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY**

Review today’s Bible story by asking the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers’ answers will vary.*)
2. Who told the disciples to throw their net into the water on the right side of the boat? (*the man on the shore; Jesus*)
3. How did Jesus show that He loved His friends, the disciples? (*He helped them catch a lot of fish and cooked breakfast for them.*)
4. How many times did Jesus ask Peter if Peter loved Him? (*three times*)
5. What did Jesus tell Peter to do? (*feed My lambs; watch over My sheep; feed My sheep; follow Me*)

## 6. How do we know God wants us to know Him? We know God wants us to know Him because He shows Himself through the Bible.

**SAY** Jesus met some of His friends on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. He cooked breakfast for them and then asked Peter three times if Peter loved Him. Jesus did this to show Peter and the other disciples that He forgave them. Jesus wanted to show His friends, and Peter, that He still loved them and wanted them to keep following Him. Even though we sin, Jesus forgives us and wants us to follow Him.

### 6. PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

**SAY** Dear God, I ask You to forgive me for the times that I sin and do something wrong. Thank You for promising to always love us. Help us follow You. Amen.

## ACTIVITIES

(PLEASE DO ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK)

Divide the children into two groups to participate in one of the first two activities, then rotate the groups so that children have a chance to do both (1.) and (2.). Finish all together with *Make a Fish Mosaic*.

### 1. PUT ITEMS IN GROUPS OF THREE

Provide children with common classroom items such as blocks, crayons, or markers. Hold up three items and encourage children to count aloud with you the number of items in your hand. Put those items in a group on a table. Then challenge the children see how many groups of three that they can make out of the provided items.

**SAY** How many groups of three did you make? [**Allow responses.**] In the Bible story, Jesus asked Peter three times, 'Do you love me?' And after each time that Jesus asked, Peter said, 'You know I love You.' When Jesus was arrested, His disciples, including Peter, ran away. Jesus asked Peter these questions to show Peter that He still loved him and wanted Peter to follow Him. Like Peter, even though we sin, Jesus forgives us and wants us to follow Him.

### 2. FISH FOR THE KEY PASSAGE

Cut out the "**Key Passage Fish**" printable for each child. Attach a **paper clip** to each fish. Scatter the fish on the floor outside of the **boat** you created in *Introduce the Bible Story*. Hand a child the fishing pole and prompt him to catch a fish by dropping the magnet onto the paper clip. When the child catches his fish, remove the fish from the magnet and the paper clip from the fish. Read the verse to the child. (Note:Keep the fish for the "Fish mosaic" activity.)

**SAY** Jesus' friends spent all night fishing, but they caught nothing. A man on the seashore told them to throw their net onto the other side of the boat. They caught a lot of fish! Who was the man on the seashore? (The man was Jesus.) Then Jesus cooked a breakfast for His friends. After breakfast Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Peter answered Jesus saying, 'You know that I love You.' When Jesus was arrested, His disciples ran away, including Peter. Jesus showed His friends that He still loved them and wanted them to keep following Him.

### MAKE A FISH MOSAIC

Prompt children to retrieve the "**Key Passage Fish**" printable they caught in the "Fish for the key passage" activity. Distribute **glue sticks** to children. Guide children to dab some glue on different colored tissue paper squares and then to stick them onto their fish, creating a mosaic picture. As children work, read the key passage to them several times.

**SAY** Our key passage reminds us that eternal life happens when we know and follow God and the one that He sent—Jesus. Today we heard how Jesus appeared to His friends after His resurrection. He told them how to catch a lot of fish and then He cooked them breakfast. Even though these same disciples ran away when He was arrested, Jesus showed His friends that He still loved them and still wanted them to follow Him.

**COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE** (please send this home with parents)

THERE IS NO ACTIVITY PAGE THIS WEEK BECAUSE OF THE FISH MOSAIC CRAFT.

## OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to John 21. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

### JESUS FORGAVE PETER

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Sit around the sea:** Spread a blue blanket or sheet on the floor to be the Sea of Galilee. Place a few toy boats on the blanket or print a few pictures of boats and tape them to blocks. Invite the children to sit around the Sea of Galilee and listen to the Bible story. Use the sea and the toy boats to help you tell the story.

**Act out the story as a group:** As you read the story, stop at times throughout the text and ask the children to mime parts of the story with you. For example, tell them to pretend to get into a boat, throw their nets out on the right side of the boat, pull in a heavy net, jump into the sea, rub their tummy for breakfast, and so forth.

**Jesus' friends were fishing together at the sea. They spent all night in their boat, but they did not catch any fish. Not even one! The next morning the sun was rising, and the disciples could see a man on the seashore. The man called out to them, "You don't have any fish, do you?"**

**"No," they said.**

**"Put your fishing net into the water on the right side of the boat. Then you will catch some fish," the man said. The friends did what the man said, and they did catch fish! They caught so many fish that they could not even get the net back in the boat because it was so heavy.**

**"It is the Lord!" John shouted. It was Jesus! Peter jumped into the sea and swam to shore. The other friends came along in the boat behind him, dragging the net full of fish.**

**They saw there was fish cooking on a fire and bread to eat. Jesus said, "Bring some of the fish you caught." Peter pulled the heavy net up to the shore.**

**"Come and have breakfast," Jesus said. Jesus took the bread and gave it to them, and then gave them the fish.**

**After breakfast, Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me more than My other friends?"**

**"Yes, Lord. You know that I love You," Peter said.**

**"Feed My lambs," Jesus said.**

**Jesus asked Peter again, "Simon Peter, do you love Me?"**

**"Yes, Lord. You know that I love You," Peter answered.**

**"Watch over My sheep," Jesus said.**

**Jesus asked Peter one more time, "Do you love Me?"**

**Peter was sad that Jesus had asked him again. He said, "Lord, You know everything! You know that I love You."**

**"Feed My sheep," Jesus said. Then Jesus said, "Follow Me!"**

**Christ Connection:** When Jesus was arrested, His disciples ran away. Jesus showed His friends that He still loved them and wanted them to keep following Him. Even though we sin, Jesus forgives us and wants us to follow Him.

## DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

**April 28**  
**9:00am & 11:00am**  
*Two Year Olds*  
**JESUS FORGAVE PETER**  
(John 21)

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus loved His friends and wanted them to follow Him. Jesus loves us and wants us to follow Him too.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** How do we know God wants us to know Him? We know God wants us to know Him because He shows Himself through the Bible.

**KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:** People who know God will live forever. John 17:3

## LEARN

*(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)*

### 1. INTRODUCTORY GROUP TIME ACTIVITY: TALK ABOUT FISHING

Talk about what the children know about fishing. Demonstrate how to cast and reel in a fish. Comment that when Jesus' friends went fishing, they had large nets to toss over the side of the boat. They pulled the nets in when they were full of fish. Encourage the children to work together to pretend to fish with a net.

**SAY** *Several of Jesus' friends were fishermen. We fish with fishing poles. Jesus' friends fished in boats. They worked together to toss a large net into the water and when it was full of fish, they would pull it into the boat. In our Bible story, Jesus' friends had fished all night long. Listen and find out what happened.*

### 2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

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### 3. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the **key passage phrase marker** at John 17. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Pass a toy fish around the room as the children say the key passage phrase several times. Comment that when Jesus fixed breakfast for His friends, He showed that He still loved them and wanted them to follow Him.

## ACTIVITIES

### GO FISHING

With the provided **fishing poles and magnetic fish toys**, encourage children to go pretend fishing. While they fish review the Bible story:

**SAY** *In our story, Jesus' friends had fished all night. Did they catch any fish? How did they feel? Jesus called to them and told them to put their net on the other side of the boat. They did what Jesus said, and what happened? (They caught a lot of fish.) Jesus fixed breakfast to show them that He loved them. Jesus asked Peter an important question, 'Do you love Me?' Jesus loved them by forgiving them. Jesus forgives and loves everyone who trusts in Him. What does Jesus do when we do something wrong? Does He stay mad at us for sinning? No, Jesus loves us and forgives us.*

### COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the GOSPEL GEMS below:

- Jesus helped His friends catch many fish.
- Peter told Jesus three times, "I love You!"
- Jesus said, "Follow Me!"

*SAY Jesus showed His friends that He still loved them and wanted them to follow Him. Jesus forgives and loves everyone who trusts in Him.*

### **OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:**

Open the Bible to John 21. and tell the following Bible story:

#### **JESUS FORGIVES PETER**

Jesus' friends went fishing all night, but they did not catch any fish. In the morning, they saw a man standing on the shore. The man told them to put their fishing nets into the water on the right side of the boat. The friends did, and they caught so many fish! The friends saw that the man was Jesus. Peter swam to shore and the other friends came in the boat. Jesus invited the friends to eat breakfast with Him. Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me?" Peter said, "I love You!" Jesus asked again, "Do you love Me?" Peter said, "Yes, I love You!" Jesus asked again, "Do you love Me?" Peter said, "I love You!" Then Jesus said, "Follow Me!"

**Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.**